

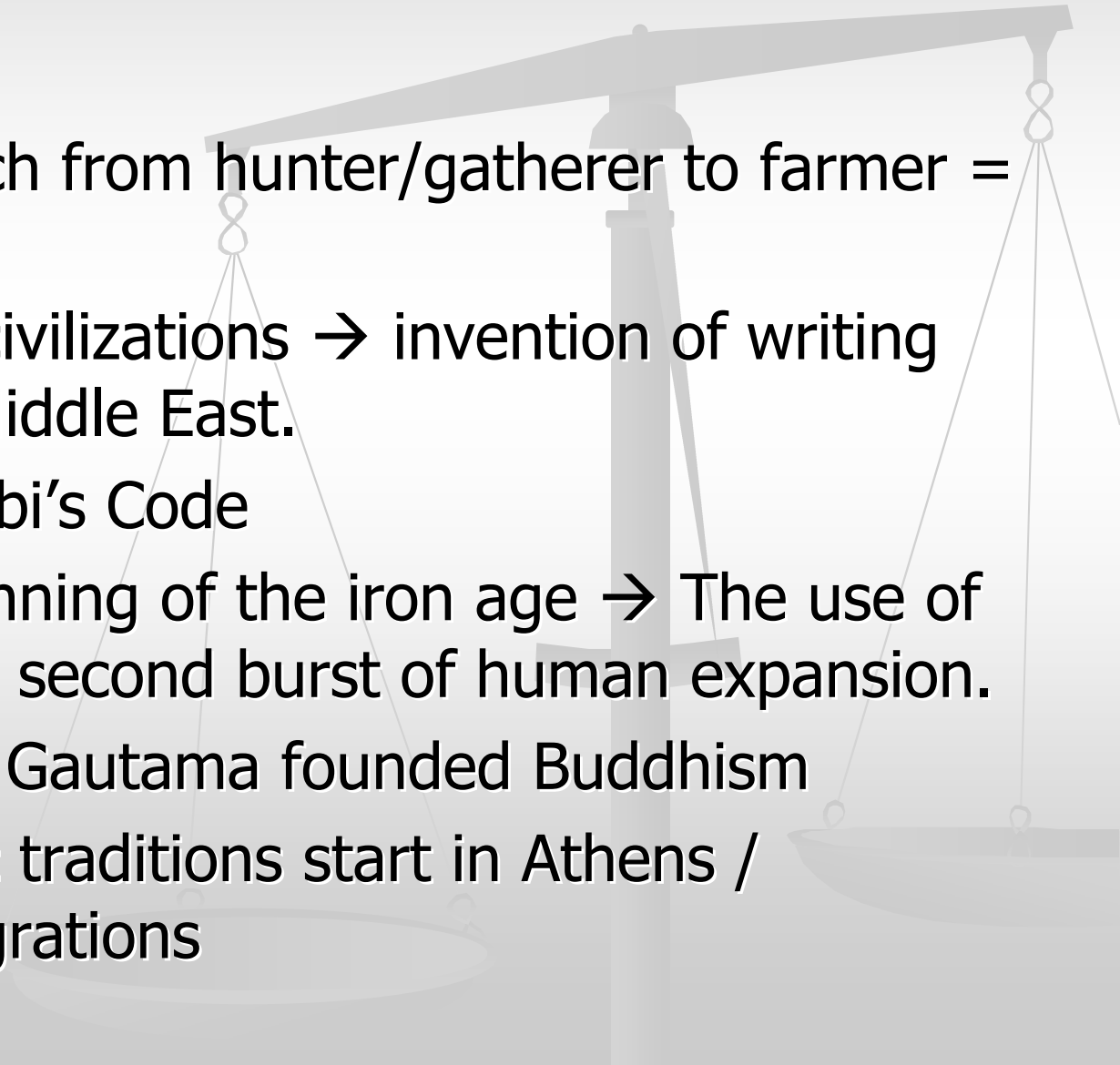


“Turning Points” in World History

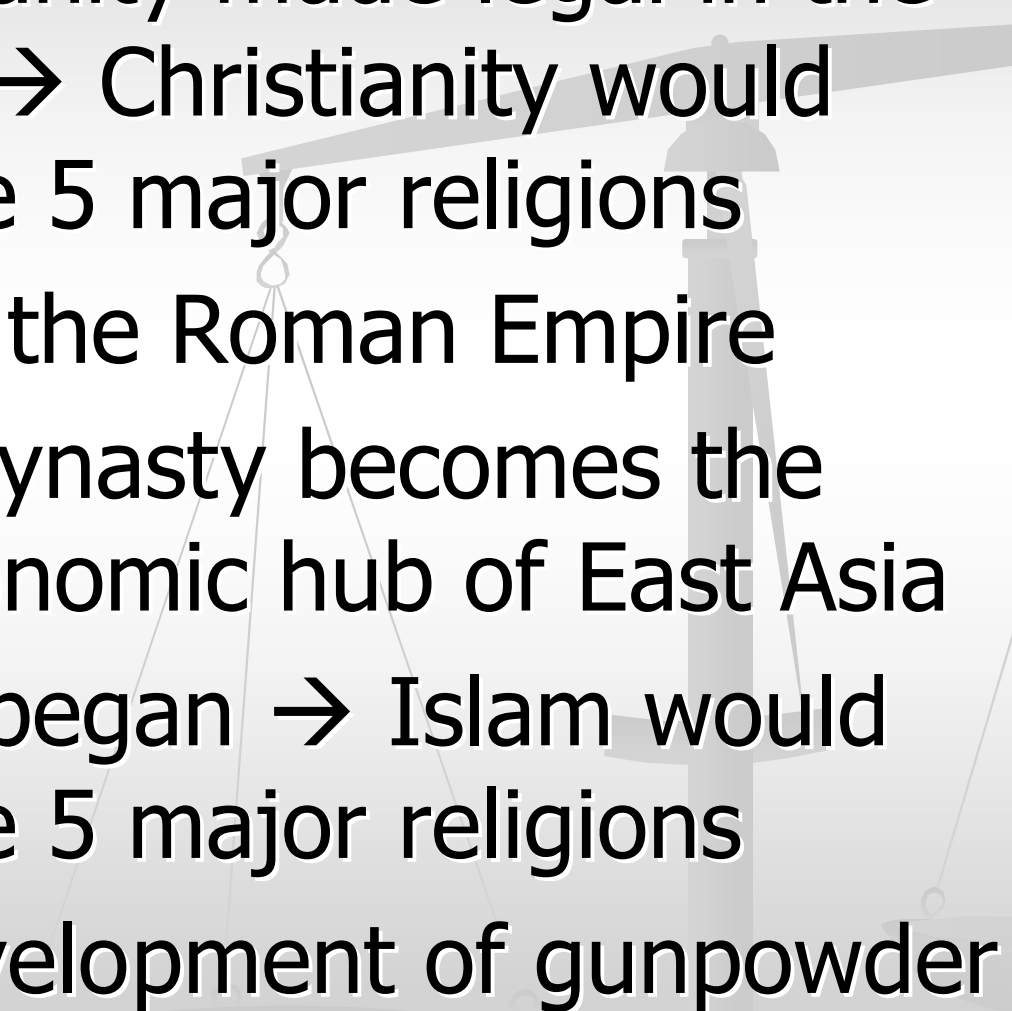
A turning point is an event, era, and/or development in world history that has brought about significant social, cultural, ecological, political or economic change.

Ancient History

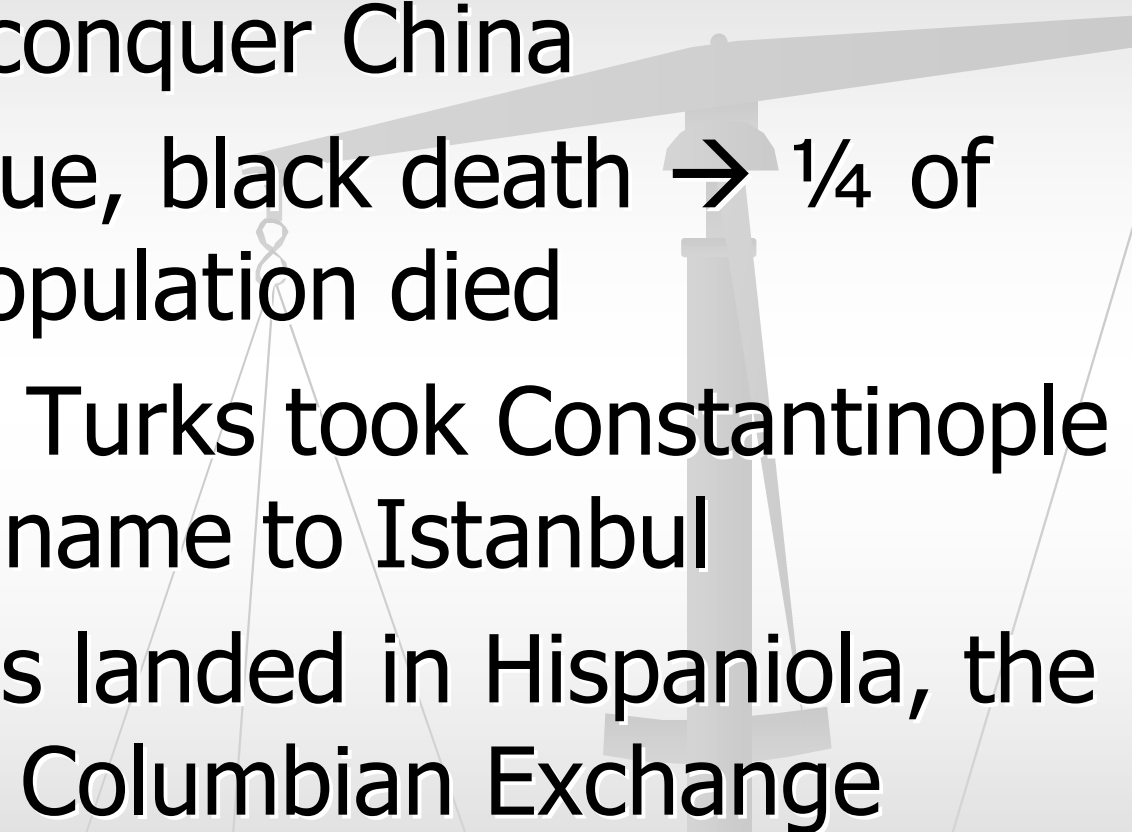
- Harnessing fire
- Origins of language
- c.8000 BCE: The switch from hunter/gatherer to farmer = agricultural revolution
- c.3000 BCE: The first civilizations → invention of writing and the wheel in the Middle East.
- c.1750 BCE: Hammurabi's Code
- c.1000 BCE: The beginning of the iron age → The use of iron for tools created a second burst of human expansion.
- c.530 BCE: Siddhartha Gautama founded Buddhism
- c.500 BCE: Democratic traditions start in Athens / beginning of Bantu Migrations



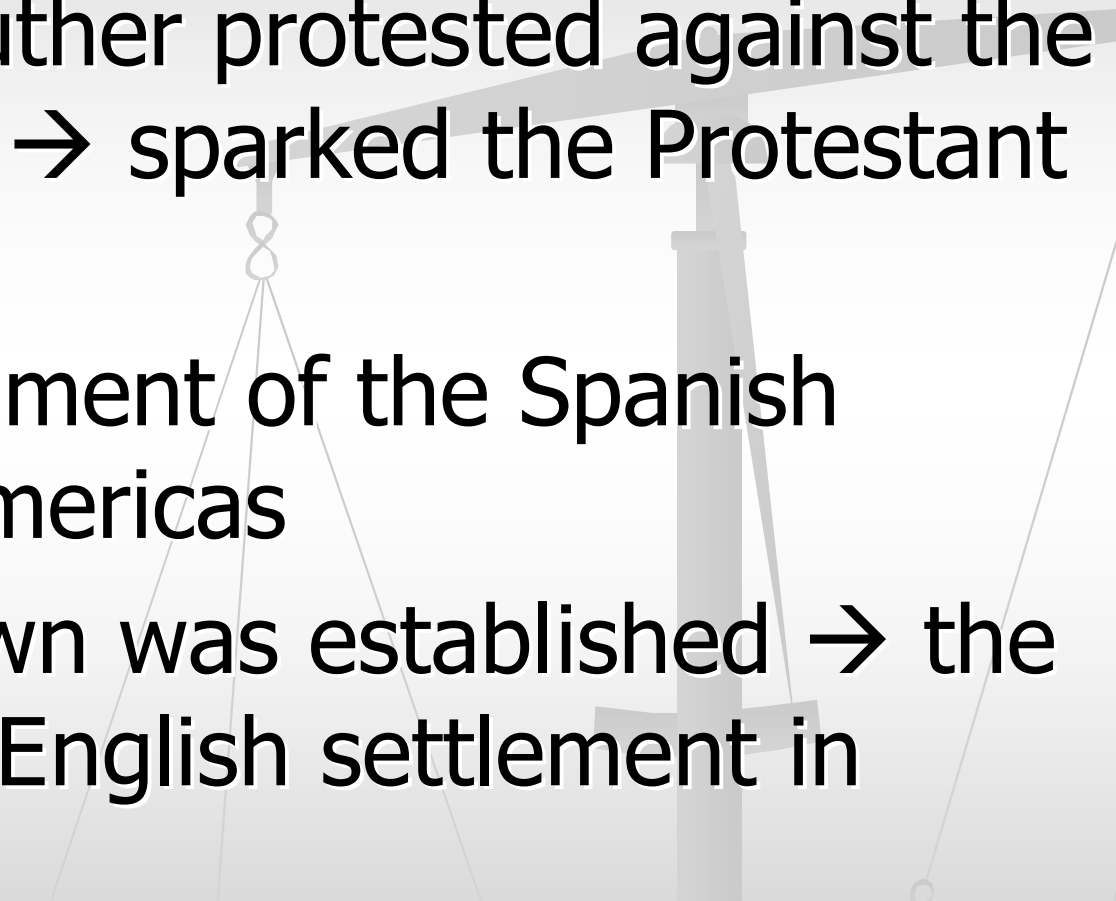
Classical Period

- 313 CE: Christianity made legal in the Roman Empire → Christianity would become 1 of the 5 major religions
 - 476 CE: Fall of the Roman Empire
 - 618 CE: Tang Dynasty becomes the cultural and economic hub of East Asia
 - 622 CE: Islam began → Islam would become 1 of the 5 major religions
 - c. 1000 CE: Development of gunpowder
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Medieval Period

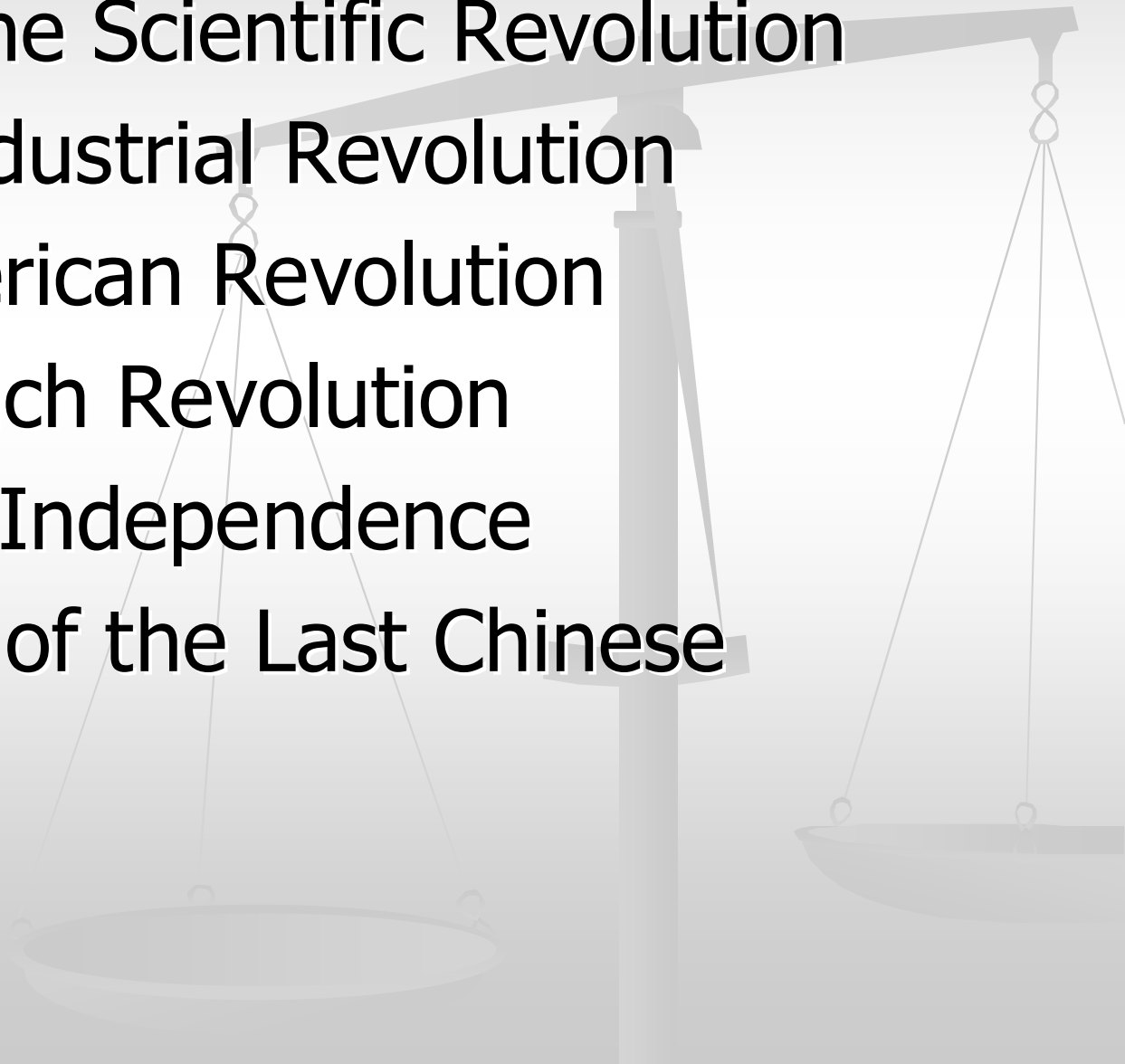
- 1279: Mongols conquer China
 - 1347: The plague, black death → 1/4 of the European population died
 - 1453: Ottoman Turks took Constantinople → changed the name to Istanbul
 - 1492: Columbus landed in Hispaniola, the "New World" → Columbian Exchange
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Global Connections

- 1517: Martin Luther protested against the Catholic Church → sparked the Protestant Reformation
 - 1520s: Establishment of the Spanish Empire in the Americas
 - 1607: Jamestown was established → the first permanent English settlement in North America
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Revolutions

- c.1550-1700: The Scientific Revolution
- c.1750: The Industrial Revolution
- 1776: The American Revolution
- 1789: The French Revolution
- 1810: Mexican Independence
- 1911: The End of the Last Chinese Dynasty



The Modern Period

- 1914: World War I
 - 1917: The Birth of the Soviet Union
 - 1945: The Atomic Bomb
 - 1947: Indian Independence
 - 1980: MTV
 - 1989: Fall of the Berlin Wall
 - 1990s: "Chindia" – Emerging Economic Powers
 - 2001: 9/11
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